

## Lecture 7 Fast Johnson-Lindenstrauss

Let's fix a set  $U \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d$  of  $m$  points. JL tells us that a Gaussian matrix  $X \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$  satisfies

$$1 - \epsilon \leq \frac{\|Xu - Xv\|_2}{\|u - v\|_2} \leq 1 + \epsilon \quad \forall u, v \in U$$

with probability  $1 - \delta$ , as long as

$$n = \Omega\left(\frac{\log\left(\frac{m}{\delta}\right)}{\epsilon^2}\right)$$

The cost of forming  $Xu$  is  $O(dn)$  flops.

We will prove that there exists a matrix  $L \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$  that satisfies the conclusions of JL but forming  $Lu$  costs  $O(d \log(d) + n \log(dm))$  flops.



Let's check the norm in expectation:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{E} \|Lu\|_2^2 &= \sum_i \mathbb{E} (L_i u)^2 \\ &= \sum_i \sum_j \frac{d}{n} \cdot u_j^2 \cdot \frac{1}{d} \\ &= \frac{1}{n} \sum_i \sum_j u_j^2 = \|u\|_2^2\end{aligned}$$

So  $\|Lu\|_2^2$  has the right mean, but does not concentrate well for example when  $u = e_1$ . Indeed  $Le_1 = 0$  with probability

$$p = \left(\frac{d-1}{d}\right)^n = \left(1 - \frac{1}{d}\right)^n$$

So  $\log(p) = n \log\left(1 - \frac{1}{d}\right) = \frac{n}{d} + o\left(\frac{1}{d}\right)$

So need  $n \approx d$  to have  $p < \frac{1}{2}$  for example.

On the other hand if  $u$  is not aligned with the axes  $Lu$  does concentrate well.

Lemma: Let  $u \in \mathbb{R}^d$  be such that

$$\|u\|_\infty^2 \leq \lambda \cdot \|u\|_2^2$$

Then  $P[|\|Lu\|_2^2 - \|u\|_2^2| \geq \epsilon \|u\|_2^2] \leq 2 \exp\left(-\frac{\epsilon^2 n}{d^2 \lambda^2}\right)$

pf: Observe  $\|Lu\|_2^2 = \sum_i (L_i u)^2$

and  $(L_i u)^2 = \frac{d}{n} u_j^2$  w.p.  $\frac{1}{d}$

Therefore  $(L_i u)^2$  is  $\frac{d \|u\|_\infty^2}{2n}$  - subGaussian

Hoeffding implies  $\|Lu\|_2^2$  is  $\frac{d \|u\|_\infty^2}{2\sqrt{n}}$  subGaussian and therefore

$$P[|\|Lu\|_2^2 - \|u\|_2^2| \geq \epsilon \|u\|_2^2]$$

$$\leq 2 \exp\left(-\frac{\epsilon^2 \|u\|_2^4 n}{d^2 \|u\|_\infty^4}\right) \leq 2 \exp\left(-\frac{\epsilon^2 n}{d^2 \lambda^2}\right)$$

Idea: Apply first a random matrix  $R$  to  $u_i$  so that  $Ru_i$  is not alligned with coordinate axes. Specifically all we would like

$$\|Ru_i\|_\infty \approx \frac{1}{\sqrt{d}} \|Ru_i\|_2$$

Incoherence ↙

in order to apply the lemma.

But  $R$  should be such that  $Ru$  is easy to compute.

Defn: A Hadamard matrix  $H \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$  is one that is orthogonal and has all entries in  $\{-\frac{1}{\sqrt{d}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{d}}\}$

Ex: For  $d=2$ , have

$$H_2 = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{bmatrix}$$

↙ 45° degree rotation

For powers  $d = 2^k$  we may set

$$H_d = \begin{bmatrix} H_{d/2} & H_{d/2} \\ H_{d/2} & -H_{d/2} \end{bmatrix} / \sqrt{2}$$

Lemma:  $H_d$  is Hadamard.

pt: By induction  $H_d(i,j) = \pm \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{d}} / \sqrt{2} = \pm \frac{1}{\sqrt{d}}$   
and direct computation shows  $H_d^T H_d = I$

Note to compute  $H_d u$ , we may write

$$H_d \begin{bmatrix} u_1 \\ u_2 \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{bmatrix} H_{d/2}(u_1 + u_2) \\ H_{d/2}(u_1 - u_2) \end{bmatrix}$$

So can proceed inductively. In each step we need to compute  $u_1 + u_2, u_1 - u_2$  and there are  $\log(d)$  steps. So total cost is  $d \log(d)$ .

We'll introduce randomness by letting  $D$  be a diagonal matrix with random sign  $\epsilon_i = \{-1, +1\}$  entries. Set  $R = HD$ . Can check that  $R$  is also Hadamard.

Lemma: For any  $u$  set  $v = HDu$ . Then

$$P \left[ \frac{\|v\|_\infty}{\|v\|_2} \geq \sqrt{\frac{2 \log\left(\frac{4d}{\delta}\right)}{d}} \right] \leq \frac{\delta}{2}$$

pf: Observe  $\|v\|_2 = \|u\|_2$  and

$$v_i = \sum_j \epsilon_j H_{ij} u_j$$

So by Hoeffding  $v_i$  is subgaussian with param  $\sqrt{\sum_j H_{ij}^2 u_j^2} = \frac{\|u\|_2}{\sqrt{d}}$ .

Therefore

$$P[|v_i| \geq \sqrt{\lambda} \|u\|_2] \leq 2 \exp\left(-\frac{\lambda d}{2}\right) = \frac{\delta}{2d}$$

Taking union bound over  $i$  completes the pf

Finally putting the two lemmas together gives the thm.

Thm (Fast JL Transform)

Define the matrix

$$X = L \cdot H \cdot D$$

random diagonal

supersparse Hadamard

Then with probability  $1 - \delta$ , we have

$$1 - \epsilon \leq \frac{\|Xu - Xv\|_2}{\|u - v\|_2} \leq 1 + \epsilon \quad \forall u, v \in \mathcal{U}$$

provided

$$n \geq \frac{2 \log\left(\frac{4m^2}{\delta}\right) \log\left(\frac{4dm^2}{\delta}\right)}{\epsilon^2}$$

Forming  $Xu$  requires  $d \log(d) + n$  flops.

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Note this  $n$  is worse than  $n$  from JL by a factor of  $\log(dm)$ .

Pf: For any  $u$ , with prob  $1 - \frac{\delta}{2m^2}$  w.r.t.  $\mathcal{D}$  we have

$$\textcircled{1} \quad \frac{\|HDu\|_\infty^2}{\|HDu\|_2^2} \leq \lambda = \frac{2 \log\left(\frac{4dm^2}{\delta}\right)}{d}$$

Conditioned on this event  $E$ , with probability  $p = 1 - 2 \exp\left(-\frac{\varepsilon^2 n}{d^2 \lambda^2}\right)$  we have

$$\textcircled{2} \quad \left| \underbrace{\|LHDu\|_2^2}_{\|Xu\|_2^2} - \underbrace{\|HDu\|_2^2}_{\|u\|_2^2} \right| \leq \varepsilon \underbrace{\|HDu\|_2^2}_{\|u\|_2^2}$$

Note  $p = 1 - 2 \exp\left(-\frac{\varepsilon^2 n}{2 \log\left(\frac{4dm^2}{\delta}\right)}\right) = 1 - \frac{\delta}{2m^2}$

Let  $E$  be the event where  $\textcircled{1}$  holds and  $F$  the event that  $\textcircled{2}$  holds. Then  $P[E \cap F] = P[F|E] \cdot P[E] \geq \left(1 - \frac{\delta}{2m^2}\right) \cdot \left(1 - \frac{\delta}{2m^2}\right) \geq 1 - \delta/m^2$

Take union bound over  $u = x-y$  for  $x, y \in \mathcal{U}$   $\square$